ABSTRACT

An apparatus and method for processing text or character data are disclosed. A text processing system receives a character input string and determines whether to apply

5   character processing. A non-English language such as Italian can be entered into a processing system such as a computer using a standard English based keyboard such that additional keys for providing accents or other grammatical and punctuation symbols or characters not existing in English are not required. In one mode, text is automatically accented or punctuated without requiring user intervention. In another mode, a user is

10   provided with a list of accent or punctuation choices so that the user may select the optimum accent or punctuation. Text processing of an input may be activated by a predefined activator event pressed in a predetermined sequence, or may be activated in the event a predetermined sequence of characters is received. When an activator event input is detected, a rules based system is utilized to select a correctly accented and

15   punctuated character. A list of alternative accents and punctuations is optionally displayed, and a user may toggle through the list using the activator event to select a desired character. The display provides information for a level of certainty of a selected character or word.

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